

HOUSING ADVISORY COMMISSION (HAC)
MEETING MINUTES
March 17, 2014

Commission Members Present: Chairperson Dan Haizman, Mayor Kevin McKeehan, Jason Reynolds, Kurt Kronholm, Judith Kolbas, Mike Smith and Seth Geisler

Staff Present: Jung-Han Chen

I. Call to Order

Mr. Haizman called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

II. Approval of Agenda

Mayor McKeehan moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Reynolds seconded the motion. Motion passed.

III. Approval of the December 9, 2014 Minutes

Mayor McKeehan moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Reynolds seconded the motion. Motion passed.

IV. New Business

Research on Senior Housing- Sherry Lind of MU Gerontology/Script Center

Staff introduced Sherry Lind, a graduate student in Gerontology, who presented her research paper on senior housing issues. Ms. Lind explained the purpose of her research was to conduct a survey about the housing preferences for people over 50 years of age. The primary focus was to illustrate the different types of housing available for seniors and find out the preferences of those who participated in the survey. The expected outcome would provide a scope of needs that could be shared with potential senior housing developers.

The Commission inquired about the sample size and the time table for the survey. Ms. Lind indicated that there would be approximately 700 randomly sampled questionnaires sent out and anticipated the outcomes tabulated in August. Ms. Lind also indicated that the minority segment of the population would be targeted.

The Commission felt that the research paper undertaken by Ms. Lind would be very useful in terms of validating senior housing needs. Her research paper would further verify the gaps that the Commission has been anxious to learn. The Commission was excited to learn more about the outcome of her survey and will be asking Ms. Lind to come back to the Commission to provide an update.

Ms. Lind also shared with the Commission the Oxford Village Network and its monthly forum that disseminates information about the senior population. Ms. Kolbas also provided more information about the Network.

V. On-Going Business of Continued Interest

The Commission also reviewed On-Going Business and noted several items the Commission has been working on and was comfortable with in their accomplishments.

- 1 Residential Overlay District restricting rental properties.
- 2 Affordable housing set-asides from development projects.
- 3 Uptown parking issue updates from the Parking and Transportation Advisory Board.
- 4 Nuisance housing legislation.
- 5 Continue consistency and step-up of property maintenance.
- 6 Build up of the Housing Trust Fund with creative funding sources.
- 7 Finding information about funding programs available to acquire and rehab apartment buildings.
- 8 Housing unit oversupply issues- look into impact fees issued to any new units coming on line.

Staff commented that the Commission's work on the Residential Overlay District had laid the foundation in seeing the first neighborhood going through the City Council approval process. It was a good tool available for property owners in protecting their neighborhoods.

Mr. Reynolds also reported to the Commission that his real estate brokerage firm has had inquiries for family suitable housing, but had a very difficult time locating those units. It seemed like there was housing available, but not for families. Mr. Reynolds did not know whether the Commission could do anything or if this was something the Commission could have a discussion.

Staff also asked the Commission to see if they were okay to cancel the April regular meeting. The Commission agreed to cancel the meeting.

VI. Adjournment

Mayor McKeehan moved to adjourn and the motion was seconded by Mr. Kronholm. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.